

of the wound to remove all source of continued intoxication, and of conserving the strength of the patient in the hope that the morbid process caused by the toxin already in the nerve cells may be overcome (Jour. A. M. A., April 11, 1914, p. 1174).

SALVARSAN THERAPY.—Wechselmann holds that the cases of salvarsan fatalities from encephalitis hemorrhagica were due to uremia, resulting from the irritation of the kidneys, in most cases damaged by administration of mercury. On the basis of this theory he argues for a pure salvarsan therapy in place of the generally combined mercury and arsenic treatment. He warns that salvarsan should be administered only after due consideration of the dose indicated and of the determination of absence of contraindications. No one can dispute that nearly all the deaths from salvarsan have been caused by its indiscriminate use, either in the face of contraindications or too large or too frequent dosage (Jour. A. M. A., April 11, 1914, p. 1175).

THE HYPOPHOSPHITE FALLACY.—The hypophosphites were introduced by Dr. Churchill as a specific remedy for consumption on the theory, since proven incorrect, that phthisis was due to a lack of oxygen in the tissues. On the supposition that hypophosphites were oxidized in the body, he presumed them to be a source of energy for the nervous system. Not only does the evidence indicate that in consumption there is an increase of oxidation, but there is no evidence that phosphorus acts as an energizer of oxidation and further, there is no proof that the hypophosphites enter into general metabolism. Not only is there no evidence of the utility of hypophosphites but it has long ago been demonstrated that they are excreted unchanged. While the discredited hypophosphite theory is no longer contained in textbooks, the fallacy is kept alive by proprietary interests, and physicians who depend for their therapeutics on the "literature" of proprietary concerns, still employ the hypophosphites (Jour. A. M. A., April 25, 1914, p. 1346).

SALVARSAN IN EROSIVE BALANITIS.

ANSTRUTHER DAVIDSON, M. D., Los Angeles.

Erosive balanitis is not at all uncommon in this city, but many practitioners continue to class it as chancreoid. The recommended methods of treatment—slitting up the foreskin when required, bathing with peroxide of hydrogen, etc.—are absolutely useless in many cases as the numerous fatalities show.

As this disease is in part a spirochetal affection I have for the last year been using salvarsan intravenously, just as in syphilis. In some cases the resultant cure has been almost magical in its rapidity; a few seemed to be unaffected by it, and in one case seen two weeks before death, it was apparently of no benefit. I wish those who have an opportunity would try this and record the result in this Journal.

A CONSERVATION OF VISION CAMPAIGN, WITH A REQUEST FOR CO-OPERATION.

For some time now the American Medical Association, through a special Conservation of Vision Sub-committee of the Council on Public Health of the A. M. A., has been striving to initiate throughout the United States a campaign of education, having for its end object the education of the people concerning the great necessity for proper work in the conservation of vision.

The undersigned has been requested by the A. M. A. Conservation of Vision Committee to take charge of the lecture work in California.

At the Santa Barbara meeting of the Medical

Society of the State of California, the State Committee on the Conservation of Vision was consolidated with this A. M. A. Committee.

By addressing the Conservation of Vision Committee of the American Medical Association, 535 N. Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill., all who are interested can obtain copies of the literature that has been put out on this subject.

An invitation is herewith extended to all eye specialists in the state, or general practitioners who are interested in public health matters, to co-operate in this campaign of Conservation of Vision in California.

It is the purpose to present lectures before women's clubs, parent-teachers' school associations, and other organizations interested in the conservation of the public health.

It is hoped that the eye specialists, who should be particularly interested in this work, will co-operate in California as they have in other States, so as to show a good report for California in this propaganda.

The undersigned will be glad to correspond and give further information to all members of the profession who are interested.

Very truly,

GEORGE H. KRESS,

Chairman of the State Medical Society Committee on Conservation of Vision.

245 Bradbury Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

PERSONNEL OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES, SANTA BARBARA, APRIL, 1914.

H. Bert Ellis, Henry Horn, G. H. Taubles, A. W. Hoisholt, Geo. G. Reinle, L. P. Adams, T. C. Edwards, H. R. Oliver, Edw. R. Drucks, O. D. Hamlin, René Bine, H. E. Alderson, A. H. Mays, E. E. Brinkerhoff, R. R. Campbell, M. R. Gibbons, Dudley Tait, Kaspar Pischel, G. E. Tucker, H. B. A. Kugeler, C. G. Kenyon, H. A. L. Ryfkogel, J. L. Howard, R. E. Bering, B. T. Church, C. Van Zwalenburg, David Hadden, D. H. Moulton, L. R. Ryan, G. H. Kress, Margaret Smyth, C. B. Hare, A. B. Cooke, A. H. Kiger, H. G. Marxmiller, Carl H. Parker, P. K. Brown, W. B. Coffey, C. C. Browning, C. H. Whitman, A. F. Gillihan, Jno. Carling, P. C. H. Pahl, C. P. Thomas, U. S. Abbott, P. B. Fry, F. F. Gundrum, F. B. Carpenter, H. W. Gibbons, R. L. Rigdon, G. A. Hare, P. Manson, R. T. Stratton, G. L. Cole, Wm. W. Kerr, W. T. McArthur, E. S. Loizeaux, A. M. Henderson, B. J. Powell, C. W. Page, A. H. Dunn, David Powell, V. G. Clark, W. I. Terry, Howard Morrow, C. A. Dukes, A. H. Buteau, A. A. Alexander, Jno. L. Dryer, Geo. E. Ebricht.

MEMBERS AND GUESTS REGISTERED AT THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEDICAL SOCIETY, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA, APRIL, 1914.

Adams, L. P.; Alderson, H. E.; Allen, Eliot; Alexander, A. A.; Ainley, F. C.; Anton, F. L.; Armstrong, J. M., and Mrs. Armstrong; Austin, R. E.

Bakewell, Benj.; Barkan, H.; Barry, W. T.; Barton, H. P.; Bering, R. E., and Mrs. Bering; Bine, René; Birtch, F.; Bixby, E. M.; Black, S. P.; Blodgett, T. D.; Boland, W.; Bonyng, C. W.; Brem, W. V.; Breyer, Jno. H.; Brinkerhoff, E. E.; Boardman, W. W.; Brown, Adelaide; Brown, F. A.; Brown, J. McK.; Brown, C. K.; Brown, Rexwald; Broome, Wm. J.; Browning, C. C.; Browning, Miss G.; Bucknam, R. W.; Bullock, N. H.; Buteau, S. H.

Cameron, H. McD.; Campbell, R. N.; Campbell, W. H.; Carling, J. A.; Carpenter, F. B.; Carrington,